The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

The Story of the Birmingham Police Sergeant and the Little Negro Boy

FEB 19 1941

By Harold Helfer

(In the Birmingham, Ala., Post)

Place: Police Headquarters.

Time: Last Wednesday morning.

A small Negro boy, wearing a nondescript aviation skull cap, sits in a chair behind the counter. Desk Sergt. M. E. Wiseman explains he has been brought in for begging in the street.

The boy says his name is Perry Junior Baker, that he is 11, that he lives at 4233 Second Ave.

"He's telling a lie," says Desk Sergt. B. H. Eiland. "White people live there."

"What were you begging for?" asks a reporter.

"I have been trying to get some money to take out some shoes," the boy says.

"He ought to be made to show some respect," says Detective Henry Darnell.

Sergt. H. A. Stapp whacks the boy across the head from behind.

Tears sprang to the terrified boy's eyes. He snatches off his cap.

* * *

"You know what to do with boys that tell lies," says Commissioner Eugene Connor.

"Sure, I'll see if the alligator is ready," says Desk Sergeant Eiland.

"You're not the one who has been holding up boys on bicycles, are you?" says Commissioner Connor. The boy has a toy ramshackle pistol, held together by rubber bands.

"No, sir, I ain't never done anything like that," says the boy.

"Wait until Officer Ballard gets here," says Commissioner Connor. "He'll know who he is all right. Boy, what do you want to tell a lie for about where you live? Ever been arrested before?"

"They put me in Juvenile Court once because I had a rubber inner tube," says the boy. "But I didn't steal it. They turned me loose the same day. My father come and got me."

"I'll see if the alligator is ready," says Desk Sergeant Eiland.

"What about the shoes you were trying to get?" says the reporter.

"I been paying on some $1.49 shoes," says the boy. "I been trying to get enough money to get them out. I been selling some bottles and rags and asking people for the money."

FEB 19 1941

"Don't forget that—asking people for the money," says Commissioner Connor. "Wait until Officer Ballard gets here. He'll know who he is all right."

"I didn't owe but 54 cents more on the shoes," says the boy. "I paid 70 cents on them one time."

"Boy, you're lying about your father, too," says Commissioner Connor. "First you tell officers your father's dead. Now you say he came and got you out of Juvenile Court. Wait until Officer Ballard comes in."

"I looked and the alligator is getting ready," says Desk Sergeant Eiland.

"Ah, here comes Officer Ballard now," says Commissioner Connor. "He'll tell you now who this boy is."

Officer Ballard stands looking hard at the boy for about a half minute.

"What did you want to say you lived at 4233 Second Ave., for?" says Officer Ballard. "That's where white people live. You live on Georgia Rd.

"Boy, you're the one I arrested the other day for having the rubber inner tube, isn't that right?" says Officer Ballard.

"Yes suh," says the boy. "But I didn't steal it. Honest I didn't."

"I knew who he was all the time," says Officer Ballard. "I just wanted to see what he was going to say."

* * *

"See there," says Commissioner Connor. "I told you Ballard would know who he was. He's been lying about his father too. First he said he was dead, now he says he isn't."

"I'll tell you the truth about that, mister," says the boy. "He's out trying to find him a job—that's the truth."

"Come on, boy, I'm going to take you to Juvenile Court," says Officer Ballard.

"Please don't, mister, please don't do that, please, please," says the boy. He is crying now.

Officer Ballard undoes the rubber around the boy's toy gun. It comes in two. He tosses the pieces down the hallway.

"Come on, boy," says Officer Ballard.

The boy cries harder and harder. He moves down the hall, in his torn, lopsided shoes.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Diminutive Negro Girl Of 12 Stages 'One-Man' Crime Wave

OCT 14 1941

Montgomery's latest "crime wave"—the looting of 20 to 30 homes of cash from pocketbooks and purses—was believed solved Monday following the arrest by Detectives A. Chancellor and W. A. Davis of a diminutive, soft-spoken, negro girl of 12.

The detectives, who had been on a sharp lookout for a ring of house pilferers operating over a large area of the city, were frankly surprised when they learned that the "ring" was a very small girl who bested Topper at getting into, and out of, places without being seen.

So numerous were the theft reports that they were "getting into the hair" of detectives. Most of them were similar. Someone had come in, unseen and unheard, and emptied pocketbooks and purses of whatever money they contained.

Just as often were the houses occupied as not. How had the intruder managed to "get away with it" so often?

The beginning of the solution came Saturday when someone told Detectives Chancellor and Davis that they had observed a little negro girl in the yard of a home on Palmetto Street. The informant would have thought nothing of it—only that very day $7 had disappeared from a pocketbook that had been left on a bed.

The detectives thought the matter over—then recalled that, back in June, a little negro girl had been released by the Juvenile Court on her promise to mend her "taking" ways.

The officers decided to pay the girl a visit.

She assured them they had made a mistake. She had done "nuthin' wrong."

The detectives, however, weren't so easily convinced and the upshot of it all was her "confession" that she had gone into many homes and had taken money from many pocketbooks and purses.

The officers said she even led them to a vacant house on Jackson Street and showed them where she had hidden $5 of the $7 taken from the Palmetto Street home.

They quoted the girl as saying that she had given the rest of the loot—probably valued at several hundred dollars—away. The alleged recipients, however, denied this.

Monday night the detectives said they felt quite sure that the little girl was responsible for thefts at the following places: 631 South Perry St., Mrs. E. H. Peak, $15; 318 Adams Ave., a Miss Sweeney, $6; 25 South Jackson St., Dr. Yarbrough, $25; 736 Washington Ave., a Mrs. Coker, $33; 905 Palmetto, Mrs. L. F. Brown, $70; 111 North McDonough, Mrs. N. E. Ousley, $18; 11 Gerrard St., Hill Barnett, $4; 510 South Perry, Mrs. Alexander, $36; 115 Sayre St., Mrs. Martha Davis, $11; 3 Hampton St., Mrs. E. G. Boyd, $11; 125 Wilkinson St., a Mrs. Harden, $8.

Also: 638 South Court, W. T. Kenney, $2.90; 4 Cramer Ave., Mary H. Jones, $25; 119 Buford, Y. C. Howard, $21; 19 Elizabeth, Tom Embsey, $1.75; 801 South Court, Mrs. W. Freeman, $4.75; 15 East Third, Mrs. R. E. Ray, $3; 111 North Goldthwaite, Mrs. L. G. Hudson, $9.90; 507 Felder, Mrs. M. T. White, $2; 2 South Ripley, J. T. Till, $7; 11 Jefferson Davis, Miss Mable Pall, $13; 303 Boyce, Mrs. C. L. Braxton, $8, 417 Plum, W. M. Perdue, $7, and 9 Palmetto, a Mrs. McDowell, $7.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

D. C. Training School for Girls Likened to Third-Rate Jail

JAN 29 1941

Following a series of visits to District welfare institutions by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt last year, efforts were announced to improve the management of five agencies. This is the third of a series of articles in which The Post reports what it found during a recent investigation to discover what improvements had been made.

By James D. Secrest

The National Training School for Girls has been the most troublesome of Washington's correctional institutions and is the most depressing of the lot today.

While some improvements have been effected since Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt last called attention to its "horrors," the aspect of the whole obsolete plant is pretty much that of a third-rate jail for women. This is the more surprising if one considers the amount of money expended on the school in recent years.

JAN 29 1941

More than $100,000 was spent on new construction in 1937 following visits by Mrs. Roosevelt and the late Senator Royal S. Copeland. A new dormitory or "cottage" was built for white girls and a heating plant was installed to serve buildings 25 to 50 years old.

In addition, from 1936 to 1938, $73,298 in PWA money was spent, chiefly on the grounds—but just what was done and where the money went is not apparent. Miss Anne O. Andruss, superintendent, said she had expected another cottage-dormitory and an auditorium to come out of the appropriation and WPA aid.

Dr. Carrie Weaver Smith, former superintendent, persuaded the welfare department to establish a separate school for white girls at Muirkirk, Md., in 1924. Some $78,000 was spent on land and buildings which after a few years were abandoned and turned over to the Civilian Conservation Corps. Congress found that the per capita maintenance cost was prohibitive.

JAN 29 1941

Yet while this money was being wasted, the school administration was denied money for needed personnel and equipment. An epuipped domestic science department was closed for a year because no money was appropriated for a teacher; it was opened recently when WPA provided the instructor.

A library is closed now because the school hasn't a librarian, and the library has practically no furniture.

The school has practically no recreational facilities, either indoor or outdoor, save a small recreation room in the white girls' cottage, and a basement with a few chairs and tables in the colored girls' dormitory. Miss Andruss explained she had neither the personnel nor the equipment necessary to provide outdoor games.

Girls Locked In

Because the school has no stenographer, case records are kept in almost illegible handwriting.

Large holes in the plaster, scarred woodwork, a rusty sink in the dental clinic indicate how the property has been permitted to deteriorate. Because of limited maintenance appropriations, the heat is turned off for a few hours whenever the weather is not too severe.

Girls are locked in their rooms with a master lock system that reminds one of a jail. Screens on a window leading to a rusty fire escape are kept locked so that the girls cannot escape. If the girls become unruly they are placed in dark iron-grated cells that look like a small-town lock-up.

The school's appropriation was increased in the 1941 supply bill from $38,200 to $41,920. A parole officer was allowed, along with a night watchman. The per capita limitation was raised from $500 to $575 a year.

Per Capita Limit

JAN 29 1941

The 1942 estimate carries $47,910, including $1,000 more for provisions, $1,000 additional for clothing, and $700 additional for repairs. The $575 per capita limitation is retained, however, offering a mathematical puzzle to welfare officials.

The school has one radio that doesn't work and a phonograph in the white girls' cottage.

The girls are given some limited vocational training, such as how to administer beauty treatment, and they spend half the day in academic classes. During the spring and summer some of them are employed on the farm that forms part of the grounds.

The school is situated adjacent to an expanding residential neighborhood. A new street, recently opened, skirts one side of the grounds and a dormitory.

Various proposals for moving the school into the country, where the girls could be given more freedom of movement, have encountered obstacles in one place or another. The present grounds could be sold easily by the Commisioners.

Consolidation Suggested

Suggestions for consolidating the school with the Industrial Home Schools, white and colored, have been made. The more difficult girls, under such a plan, would be transferred to penal institutions. This proposal probably will be considered in connection with the drafting of construction plans for the welfare center.

The House Subcommittee on District Appropriations, in recommending an increased appropriation last year, recommended the replacement of the superintendent. The provision, however, was stricken by the Senate subcommittee without explanation.

"Members of the committee who visited this school were of the opinion," the House report stated, "that conditions were not satisfactory at the institution and that definite improvements could be made from the standpoint of sanitation and educational opportunities."

Miss Andruss said, however, that the allowance for repairs wasn't adequate to do necessary painting not to mention other needed improvements. The 1942 budget carries an extra $700.

Ft. Myers, Fla., News Press
March 29, 1941

Home for Delinquent Negro Girls Urged

MIAMI, March 28—(AP)—The Florida Federation of Women's Clubs adopted today a health program that included request to the state legislature for laws providing pre-natal examinations and the use of silver nitrate or a recognized substitute to protect the vision of infants. Resolutions asking the health legislation and also the establishment of a state home for delinquent negro girls were sponsored by the Dade county federation and passed easily.

The clubwomen also approved a plan submitted by the state council of home demonstration work that they offer their services to the government in connection with such aspects of the defense program as nutrition, health, housing and recreation.

Other resolutions adopted included one to ask the legislature to provide better library facilities in Florida, especially for enlisted men and officers stationed in the state, and a plea that the federal government increase the quota for Florida-grown sugar after the present act expires Dec. 31, 1941.

One of the day's speakers, Millard Davidson of Marianna, endorsed the proposals to establish a home for delinquent negro girls. Davidson, who is superintendent of the Florida industrial school for boys, said delinquent negro children "need help and sympathy just as much as delinquent white boys and girls."

He described "dependency and neglect" as the two greatest causes of juvenile delinquency, adding that "a study of the cases of boys and girls placed in the home at Marianna shows that in every 100 cases 80 of them are children whose parents either are dead or divorced."

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

FEB 6 1941

By E. WASHINGTON RHODES

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY HAS ECONOMIC BASE

ANYONE who thinks that the existing widespread delinquency among young people can be exterminated by some erratic quackery ought to be immediately confined to an insane asylum. And those who waste their money on psychological clinics to prevent crime among juvenile delinquents would make wiser investments if they created better homes for the unfortunate poor to live in. And lacking the courage to actually do something basically sound about juvenile delinquency, these masters of the flesh-pots should take a winter cruise to Florida or the Caribbean.

RHODES

Damifiknow why it is that some wealthy people will put out their dough for witch doctors' nostrums while they refuse to contribute a lousy dime to something substantial enough for the poor devils they claim they want to help to stick their teeth in. No-good fakirs can get a hearing, while people with constructive plans are kicked in the pants by the money barons. Then they wonder why some people think "red". Of course, my yearly earnings don't amount to much, but after my income taxes are paid, I will lay the balance on the line as a gift to any smart aleck who can prove that juvenile delinquency has anything to do with skin color.

FEB 6 1941

I will make the same agreement with any pseudo-scientist who can prove that the majority of juvenile delinquents do not stem from rotten living conditions and that living conditions can be changed by looking down people's throats or measuring the size of their heads. Yes, I know that there are some people who would rather steal than earn an honest dollar. But what does that prove? Exactly nothing! There are some people who would rather die than take a bath. That only proves that some people do not like baths, but it has nothing to do with the sale of bath tubs and the price of soap.

Police who think they can scare people are barking up the wrong tree. In fact, police are law-enforcement officers and should not be persecutors. I appreciate the difficulty which the police sometimes face. But because a person is colored is not in itself justification for his arrest or cracking his head with a police club. I am just as much opposed to the young hoodlums who snatch pocketbooks and rob stores as any person. I want it stopped. But I know that wholesale arrests and intimidation are not the answer to the problem. It lies deep in the economic system which permits a whole segment of the population to live in squalor and dire want. The answer to the problem of juvenile delinquency is tied up with the social system of color caste, which permits some people to put their feet on the necks of other people and dare them to get out of the gutter. And all of this obtains despite laws which specifically provide for equality of opportunity for all citizens.

And anyone who has sufficient brains to fill a peanut shell knows that there are forces at work in America which prevent colored citizens from earning an honest dollar. And yet there are those who are stupid enough to place the blame upon the amount of pigmentation in people's skin.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Judge Bolin Is Rebuked By Supreme Court Jurist

FEB 8 1941

BROOKLYN, N.Y. (ANP) —Supreme Court Justice Frank E. Johnson handed down a decision Thursday severely criticizing Children's Court Justice Jane Bolin for an "obviously illegal" proceeding in a case involving the custody of a 9-year-old girl.

In children's court the child, Julia Cronin, was held by Judge Bolin as a "neglected child" when her mother, Mrs. Helen Cronin, was arrested on a charge of snatching a pocketbook.

She was remanded to Bellevue hospital for psychiatric and physical tests. The action was appealed and Justice Johnson awarded the child's custody to her maternal aunt.

Justice Johnson said: "I consider Justice Bolin's actions obviously illegal and such a clear violation of fundamental rights that one might be excused for being surprised that the chief law officer of the city should defend it. In the absence of any evidence whatever that the mother was guilty . . . a finding of neglect was legally baseless."

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

STILL WITH US

In a jail in Maine a boy of 16 and a couple of girls aged 14 and 15 while away the time tap dancing, sketching and reading while awaiting extradition to Maryland to face charges of murder and robbery committed on a middle-aged carpenter who had given the hitch-hiking trio a lift in his car. In Pennsylvania a boy of 14 is held without bail, accused of beating an 83-year-old woman to death. In another part of Pennsylvania a 16-year-old is in the hospital with a painful but not serious bullet wound, received while he and a young companion played a pleasant game with rifles, shooting as closely as possible to each other without hitting . . . at least without scoring hits for some little time. Down in Mississippi five little Negro boys have admitted attaching a "mysterious" note to the leg of a carrier pigeon they found. Their prank had all Southern Mississippi agog with a "Nazi bombing plot" scare for a couple of days.

OCT 20 1941

Ten years ago this juvenile crime wave would have produced some stern comments from various sources upon the dire effect of modern life upon the younger generation. Just a few years ago it would all have been blamed upon the depression. Today there may be passing condemnation, but so much head-shaking is being done over the international situation that not much time is left to gloom over the way in which the prospective inheritors of the dark-seeming future are carrying on.

The problem of the proper guidance of youth will probably never be solved completely, for new progress in methods of approach and knowledge of adolescent psychology are accompanied, as civilization develops, by new opportunities and incitements to mischief and serious crime.

One of the greatest handicaps which those who have devoted their lives to such work is the tendency of the population at large, including parents, to neglect its own responsibilities in this matter. The whole thing is just one of those necessary day to day tasks of the race which are too familiar to be glamorous.

32-1941
Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

Negro School Funds Voted

MAR 1 3 1941

By JACK TARVER
[Telegraph Capitol Writer]

ATLANTA—The house of representatives Wednesday voted, 146 to 4, to authorize appropriation of state money with which to equip and operate the Training School for Negro Girls at Macon.

MAR 1 3 1941

Under the bill, introduced by the members of the Bibb delegation, $15,000 will be immediately appropriated to the institution for equipment and operating expenses between now and July 1 and $20,000 will be spent for operation of the school during the state's next fiscal year.

Passage of this apropriation act by the house marks the greatest progress towards actual operation made by persons interested in such an institution since an enabling act was passed in 1913.

Every session of the legislature for the past 28 years has seen similar bills introduced. Most have died in committee.

BIBB COOPERATION

In 1936, the State Federation of Colored Women's clubs secured 130 acres near Macon on which, with a WPA grant under sponsorship of Bibb county commissioners, they erected a $26,000 home to be used for the purpose of training delinquent Negro girls.

MAR 1 3 1941

Since that time, the plant has stood empty, locked, and deserted.

Bibb county grand juries, along with the state department of public welfare and newspapers throughout the state, have consistently recommended that the administration take advantage of the opportunity which the Macon plant presented.

It was not, however, until Benning Grice, A. H. S. Weaver, and Luther Bloodworth crusaded for the current bill that any real action was to come.

The senate bill, barring a legislative log-jam due to the controversial pipeline question, get a chance to vote on the bill the first of next week.

STRIKE REVIVED

Senator Hell Bent Edwards, fiery solon from Valdosta, once again struck out at M. D. & S. employes who recently struck, as he took the floor in a successful attempt to have the senate pipeline bill accelerated yesterday.

"I came up here with a clear mind on the pipeline question," Edwards declared. "But I've said it before and I'll say it again: That M. D. & S. strike convinced me that we ought to have pipelines running to every Army camp in the country. A strike by any railroad or any employe of a railroad providing the only service to Camp Wheeler is an unpatriotic and an un-American act."

VETERINARIAN TAX

Representatives Herschel Lovett and Dawson Kea of Laurens county, Dr. J. F. Witherington of Wilcox, and J. Bush Mims of Miller Wednesday introduced a house bill which would require veterinarians to pay a $15 professional license. The bill amends the professional license act which already includes doctors, lawyers, dentists, and other professional men.

MAR 1 3 1941

DODGE BOND ISSUE

Dodge county may issue refunding bonds to take care of all outstanding indebtedness under a bill introduced in the house yesterday by Representatives Eugene Yawn and E. L. Jones of Eastman. The measures came in the form of a constitutional amendment, must be voted on in June.

VIDALIA SUBURB INC.

Pine Forrest would become an incorporated city should a bill introduced yesterday by Representative Tom Fuller of Toombs county pass both houses and be signed by the governor.

Pine Forrest, according to Mr. Fuller, lies immediately outside the city limits of Vidalia. V. H Hussey is named mayor in the bill, Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Meadows, E. M. Auld, and Mrs. Hussey serving as councilmen.

Macon, Ga., Telegraph
February 12, 1941

Letters

Negro Training School

Editor, The Telegraph:

You are probably well aware of the fact that the state of Georgia has no training school for delinquent Negro girls, hence Juneyile Court judges have to send them to jails, the state prison farm, or leave them to roam the streets — a menace to the community. Any of these procedures is costly to the state in both money and human values. A few thousand dollars a year to salvage these girls and return them to useful living would be true economy.

The plant for such a school, free of debt, was accepted by the state four years ago from the Negro women of Georgia. That building is still standing vacant. Why? Because the legislature has never provider funds for its operation. True the last legislature voted funds but they were not earmarked, so the building is empty.

A bill is before the present legislature to provide funds for the operation of the training school. One legislator has said the funds will be voted if the people want it.

Won't you help us to make the people of Georgia vocal on this great need.

Newnan. [Mrs.] W. A. TURNER.

Atlanta Ga. Constitution
March 13, 1941

New Powers Are Voted for State Attorney

House Approves Authority To Investigate Georgia Affairs.

The Georgia house voted, 110 to 27, yesterday to confer new powers on the attorney general.

Under the proposed law now going to the senate the attorney general would be empowered to investigate state affairs at any time when the assembly was not in session. He also could prosecute in criminal cases involving state employes or persons dealing with the state.

The house failed to pass a measure intended to place the appointment of registrars in the hands of grand juries. Registrars now are named by superior court judges. It voted, 67 to 57, for the bill, which lost because 105 approving votes are required for passage.

Appropriation Passes.

The first appropriation bill of the 1941 session passed the house yesterday providing for equipping and operating a training school for Negro girls at Macon.

An appropriation of $15,000 was voted for the year ending June 30, 1941, and $20,000 for the 1942 fiscal year.

Representative A. H. S. Weaver, of Bibb, exhibiting a 12-foot-long petition, said the building had been constructed by the Negro women of Georgia and donated to the state. He declared money to operate the school was not now appropriated and said that all agencies dealing with juvenile delinquents indorsed the move to put the school into operation. The bill was approved, 147 to 4.

Legislation which sponsors said would "reduce the high cost of trying cases in court" also was passed.

Amendment Proposed.

The bill is a constitutional amendment which would authorize justices of the peace to have jurisdiction in civil cases where the amount involved is not more than $200. At present, the constitutional provision sets the maximum at $100.

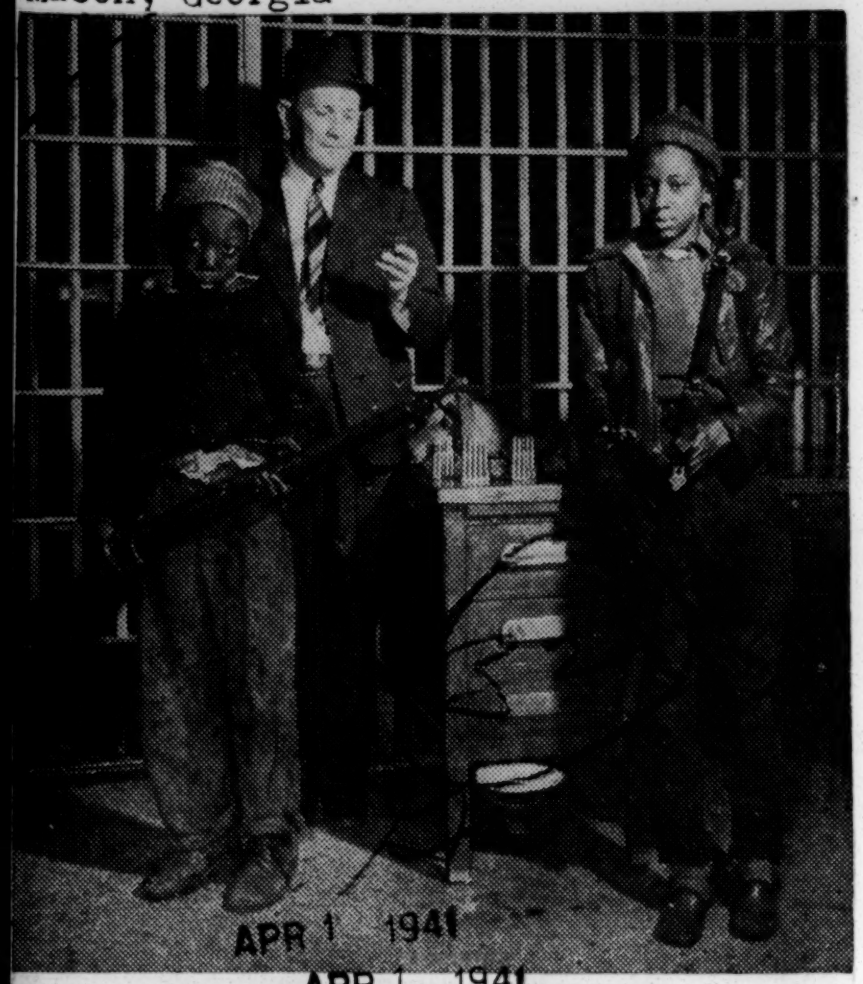
Representative C. E. Smith Jr., of Hall, co-author of the measure with Speaker Randall Evans, said that in his section of the state it was almost impossible to get a case to trial. Some counties have only one or two court sessions a year, he explained, and added that he investigated the cost of litigation and discovered "it costs an average of $200 for each case tried in superior court."

Smith declared a considerable saving would accrue to the taxpayers in the measure permitting justices of the peace to render judgments up to $200.

Georgia counties on the boundary line of an adjoining state would be authorized to acquire, construct and regulate airports even if they lapped over into the border state under a bill offered by Senator Dixon Smith, of Columbus.

Cities and other political subdivisions in such counties would be extended similar rights. The powers could be exercised by such governmental units separately or jointly, or in co-operation with political subdivisions of the adjoining county of the other states.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia



APR 1 1941

Atlanta Rabbit Hunt Ends in Bibb Jail

CARRYING REGULATION ARMY RIFLES and 250 rounds of ammunition, this pair, J. R. Hunt Jr., 10, and Mary Baker, 11, Atlanta Negroes, climbed off a freight train at Holton early yesterday. Turned over to County Officer O. R. Stokes, shown with them above, they said theiy boarded the freight to go "rabbit hunting" but couldn't get off at the right place because of the train's speed. They were being held for Fulton juvenile authorities yesterday. (Coke photo). APR 1 1941

32-1941

Atlanta (Ga.) Journal
February 23, 1941

HOME FOR NEGRO GIRLS

Editor, The Journal: You are probably well aware of the fact that the State of Georgia has no training school for delinquent Negro girls, hence juvenile court judges have to send them to jails, the State Prison Farm, or leave them to roam the streets—a menace to the community. Any of these procedures is costly to the state in both money and human values. A few thousand dollars a year to salvage these girls and return them to useful living would be true economy.

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A bill is before the present Legislature to provide funds for the operation of the training school. One legislator has said the funds will be voted if the people want it. Won't you help us to make the people of Georgia vocal on this great, great need?

MRS. W. A. TURNER.

Newnan, Ga.

Atlanta Ga Constitution
January 8, 1941

JUVENILE COURT AIDES.

COLUMBUS, Ga., Jan. 7.—Mrs. Pauline M. Lamar, who went into office last week as judge of Columbus juvenile court, has announced her staff will include Mrs. Katherine L. Howard and Mrs. Dorothy M. Watson as probation officers for white juveniles and George Odom as probation officer for Negro children.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

Lifting the Delinquents

MAR 15 1941

The general assembly has corrected a grave injustice of long standing by making an appropriation for the operation of the training school for delinquent Negro girls, located near Macon.

The money for erection of the building to house this school was raised by the Negro women of Georgia, who made many sacrifices and adopted many expedients with which to get together the funds for their project.

It was deeded to the state of Georgia on condition that appropriations for its operation would be made by the legislature, but years have passed without any action being taken until this week.

The Bibb county delegation in the house, at the beginning of the session, introduced a bill which would appropriate 15 thousand dollars for the support of the training school until the end of the present fiscal year, June 30, and 20 thousand dollars for the following fiscal year.

This bill has now been passed by both houses and is the first appropriation measure to be adopted during the present session. MAR 15 1941

An excellent training school for white girls was long ago erected near Atlanta. It has been receiving adequate support and has been showing satisfactory results. It was only fair that a similar institution for Negro girls should be provided and the obligation of Georgia became all the more imperative when the state accepted this gift from the Negro women who had pinched pennies to make it possible.

The project itself has always had the warm endorsement of probation officers and others interested in the broad question of reclaiming young offenders of both races and sexes. MAR 15 1941

We feel sure the local institution will show satisfactory results and that the women who made sacrifices to secure it years ago will realize that they have not worked in vain.

GEORGIA
Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

Justice to the Negro

Members from DeKalb county have joined the Bibb delegation in sponsoring a bill which would authorize and enable the department of public welfare to begin operation of the Negro division of the Georgia Training School for Girls, located at Macon. JAN 30 1941

It is only natural that the colored population of Georgia should feel very strongly on the subject of the neglect this institution has suffered. Among themselves they painfully got together their nickels and dimes as a nucleus with which to provide a school in which delinquent Negro girls could be given a chance to redeem themselves and become useful members of society. The white division of the training school, located near Atlanta, has been a great success, but after the present buildings were erected near Macon and the institution was taken over by the state, the plant was given over to the owls and bats.

Common justice to the Negro demands that the training school at Macon should be put into use as soon as possible.

32-1941
Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

SULLEN YOUTHS NURSE HATREDS AT ST. CHARLES

MAR 6 1941

How 653 Prisoners Act at State School.

What kind of a place is the St. Charles School for Boys? The Tribune assigned a reporter to find out. The reporter entered the school as a guard and for three days lived in its routine. Below is the first story telling what he saw and heard.

BY WARD WALKER.

[Reprinted from yesterday's late editions.]

Sullen. . . .

An occasional jeer, a shrill whistle, the monotonous shuffling of heavy shoes were the only sounds from more than 500 inmates of St. Charles School for Boys.

They jammed the benches in the huge gymnasium on the school grounds as their varsity basketball team played a close, fast game with a visiting high school team.

Two men, one a guard, the other a reporter, crossed in front of the prisoners. The impact of the inmates' eyes was solid—like the blow of a hand.

Variety of Specimens.

Wary and suspicious, that stare followed the two men to their seats. It came from faces seemingly poured out of the same "Go-to-Hell" mold; faces that have snarled at police, appeared in courts and, in many cases, will again.

The game ended. The guard and the reporter stood at the door, watching the inmates filter out.

MAR 6 1941

Many were small, others were big—over six feet tall and weighing over 200 pounds; some were clean-cut, intelligent looking, others were not. All were sullen.

"I'd rather work double-shift on the toughest cell block in the Big House than keep an eye on these kids," commented the guard.

Dangerous. . . .

Kids who hero worship gunmen and mobsters. Kids who already have broken the laws of society, who have learned the primitive law of might and, for the most part, respect no other—653 of them in St. Charles.

Shut Behind Futile Fence.

They are shut in behind a futile $24,000 eight foot fence [it has been scaled by inmates in eight seconds] just off highway 330 west of the town of St. Charles in Kane county. They are guarded by house fathers and mothers and other employés who are under orders not to strike an inmate. In other penal institutions, guards with guns are available in a crisis. No such safeguard is provided at St. Charles.

However, in the kitchens are foot long butcher knives; lengths of pipe, awls and screw drivers are available in the shops and pitchforks are plentiful on the farm—potential weapons for inmates.

During the previous week, 45 inmates of a cottage had seen a drunken house father and another employé beat a 16 year old prisoner to death with a fire hose nozzle and a club.

MAR 6 1941

Feeling ran high among the inmates. Employés became nervous. The school was regarded by penal authorities as a powder keg.

Gov. Green and Rodney Brandon, state director of public welfare, held a hurried conference, and Col. Frank D. Whipp, veteran trouble shooter of the penal system and state superintendent of prisons, was sent to the school.

With Col. Whipp went 12 of the pick of the guards at Joliet and Stateville prisons—guards who had proved their ability to handle the toughest convicts.

In a shower room, a gangly 16 year old boy MAR 6 1941 up to one of these guards.

"You one of them Big House screws?" he asked. [A "screw" is a guard.] "I'll be down there in a coupla years—and I'll show you guys what a tough con is," he boasted.

"I'm a two-time loser here," he answered a question. "I steal anything I can get my hands on. Naw, I ain't used a gun—yet."

The guard watched the youth swagger back to his chums.

"He'll use a gun and he'll be down," predicted the guard. "And we'll have to teach him that Big House discipline isn't fun."

Primitive. . . .

"Ya play like an old lady," called an inmate from the balcony.

The pantherish colored boy who had just fumbled the ball during a basketball game between two cottages paused on the floor. His narrowed eyes swept the balcony.

The call was repeated. In a flash, the player left the game, bounded up the stairs. Two guards ran after him.

Eyes blazing, the heckler and the player were squaring off in the aisle. Boys from both cottages were scrambling over the seats, calling insults.

The guards pushed their way thru and tore the principals apart. Other attendants reached the scene and the crisis was over. After the game had resumed, a school employé said:

"It'll really be something if one of those scraps ever gets started. It happens about once a week, but so far we've been lucky."

One of some 30 inmates holding a discussion with the reporter one night in a cottage provided an index of what they discuss among themselves, their ideas on the forces of organized society:

"Say, us kids make this place," said the youth, a husky lad who was a leader of the group. "What if we'd go on strike, like a union? Or if we just decided to take the joint over? Who'd stop us? We can handle these guards—just like nothin'."

The rest of the inmates nodded their heads in agreement.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

EIGHT BOYS BREAK OUT OF ST. CHARLES

OCT 19 1941

Smash Window In Escape

In the largest escape in more than a year eight colored inmates of the Illinois State Training School for Boys smashed a window in a cottage with a chair and fled over the fence and disappeared into the nearby cornfields Saturday. Five of the boys are still at large while three have been captured.

From all indications the escape had been well planned by the prisoners. The boys pretended to have been studying their Sunday school lessons on the first floor of the Harding Cottage, which is a dormitory where the "fresh" inmates are received. When the house mother turned her back the boys responded to a signal and rushed to a window. A chair was raised to smash the window and three boys took out the screen and the eight inmates made their speedy flights to the nearby fence which was built more than a year ago to prevent escapes. The fence which is 13 feet high, did not prove much of an obstacle for those who were short were helped across and the others scaled the "escape proof" fence.

When news broke out that the effort to discard all clothing which might impede their quick and safe escape.

All the prisoners are from Chicago except one. They are Andrew Walker, 14, 3621 La Salle, who was charged with stripping a car; Clifton McBride, 16, 1607 Emerson street, Evanston, automobile theft; Leslie W. Smith, 14, 6401 Indiana avenue, strong arm robbery; Marshall Wilson, 17, 649 East 50th street, armed robbery; Herbert Liggons, 17, 3707 Indiana, robbery with a gun; Ernest Gaither, 18, 3557 Prairie; Frank Hess, alias Burns, 16, 5201 Prairie, strong arm robbery, and William Brown, 16, 4048 Calumet avenue.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

COURT UPHOLDS MURDER BILLS IN ST. CHARLES CASE

MAR 28 1941

Motions to quash murder indictments against two former employés of the St. Charles School for Boys in connection with the fatal beating of an inmate on Feb. 12, were denied yesterday by Judge Charles D. Page in the Kane county court at Geneva.

Robert Adams of Lanark and William Laird of Elgin, the two defendants, were granted separate trials, however. State's Attorney Charles Seidel did not indicate which of the defendants would be tried first, but the hearing will start May 12. Adams and Laird are held in the county jail. They are accused of killing James Williams, 16 years old, colored, who was sent to the school for petty larceny.

MAR 28 1941

The motions to quash the indictments were based on legal technicalities.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Illinois Correctional School Head Says Negro Boys Prefer Segregation

APR 11 1941

CHICAGO. — (ANP) — Fortnight ago, following the vigorous protest of State Representatives Charles J. Jenkins and Ernest Greene (both of Chicago), practices of alleged discrimination and segregation were stopped at the St. Charles School for Boys, state correctional institution for delinquent boys, at St. Charles, Ill.

The solons took the matter up with Supt. Brandon, head of the state department of public welfare and members of the welfare commission and got immediate results.

Prior to the action of Jenkins and Green, William T. Harmon, managing officer of the school, wrote a letter, dated March 17, to Frank D. Whipp, state superintendent of prisons, explaining his view of the situation at St. Charles. Harmon's letter, in part, follows:

"In reply to your letter of February 20, I give you information relative to the segregation of Negroes, the number of colored boys in various cottages, and the number of colored employees in these cottages.

"There are today 197 colored boys in the school out of a total population 667. The colored boys constitute 29 1-2 per cent of the total population.

APR 11 1941

"In 1936 there was one cottage which was percent colored as a result of placing boys in the cottages according to age, size, aggressiveness and duration of delinquent experience. The white boys in this cottage constantly complained that the colored boys dominated them and made life unhappy for them.

In an attempt to determine whether both colored and white boys would be happier if segregated, we removed the white boys from this cottage and made it an all-colored cottage. This proved successful from the start. Both colored and white boys were happier under this arrangement.

"The test proved so satisfactory that at a later time an all-colored cottage was provided for the medium sized and another for the smallest colored boys. These cottages are still operating in this way.

APR 11 1941

"For the first time colored recreation assistants were added to the personnel in colored cottages in 1937-38. There are five of them now employed, three of whom are assigned regularly to the all-colored cottages and the other two are used to relieve these three on their days off and to relieve in other cottages where all of the boys are white, or where both colored and white are housed. In addition, there is a colored custodian of boys on duty in the dormitory of one of these cottages.

"Today there are the following number of colored boys in the all-colored cottages: Buchanan 42; Harrison 55; Jackson 42. The colored boys in Cleveland and Madison cottages are unhappy because they are dominated by the larger number of white boys. The colored boys in these two cottages have requested that they be assigned to an all-colored cottage with preference being placed in Buchanan cottage.

"I feel certain that if the boys now in the all-colored cottages were asked to express a preference, they would choose to continue in all-colored cottages rather than be placed in cottages with white boys. I have already stated that the colored boys in Cleveland and Madison cottages, where they constitute from 1-5 to 1-3 of the population have requested that they be placed in all colored cottages. That leaves three boys in Monroe, one in Polk and one in Taft cottage where they have been placed in order to give them either gardening or farm experience. I cannot speak for those five boys but my impression is that they, too, would prefer to be in all-colored cottages.

In view of our experience with segregation over a period of four or five years, we are convinced that both colored and white boys are happier under this arrangement than they were when they were mixed. It is also our conviction that a better program can be provided for both groups of boys suitable to their characteristics when they are segregated in this way.

"There is no foundation for the opinion that the recent death of a colored boy at the hands of employees has been result of mistreatment of colored boys, and it is certain that it had no connection with segregation."

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

ST. CHARLES SCHOOL HEAD SAYS NEGRO BOYS LIKE SEGREGATION

APR 13 1941

Fortnight ago, following the vigorous protest of State Representative Charles J. Jenkins and Ernest Greene (both of Chicago), practices of alleged discrimination and segregation were stopped at the St. Charles School for boys, state correctional institution for delinquent boys, at St. Charles, Ill.

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"In reply to your letter of February 20, I give you information relative to the segregation of Negroes, the number of colored boys in various cottages, and the number of colored employees in these cottages.

APR 13 1941

Negroes 29% of Population

"There are today 197 colored boys in the school out of a total population of 667. The colored boys constitute 29½% of the total population.

"In 1936, there was one cottage which was 66% colored as a result of placing boys in the cottages according to age, size, aggressiveness and duration of delinquent experience. The white boys in this cottage constantly complained that the colored boys dominated them and made life unhappy for them.

"In an attempt to determine whether both colored and white boys would be happier if segregated, we removed the white boys from this cottage and made it an all-colored cottage. This proved successful from the start. Both colored and white boys were happier under this arrangement.

"The test proved so satisfactory that at a later time an all-colored cottage was provided for the medium sized and another for the smallest colored boys. These cottages are still operating in this way.

APR 13 1941

"For the first time Colored Recreation Assistants were added to the personnel in colored cottages in 1937-38. There are five of them now employed, three of whom are assigned regularly to the all-colored cottages and the other two are used to relieve these three on their days off and to relieve in other cottages where all the boys are white, or where both colored and white are housed. In addition, there is a colored Custodian of Boys on duty in the dormitory of one of these cottages.

Unhappy with Whites

"Today there are the following number of colored boys in the all-colored cottages: Buchanan 44, Harrison 55, Jackson, 42. The colored boys in the Cleveland and Madison cottages are unhappy because they are dominated by the larger number of white boys. The colored boys in these two cottages have requested that they be assigned to an all-colored cottage with preference expressed for being placed in Buchanan cottage.

APR 13 1941

"I feel certain that if the boys now in the all-colored cottages were asked to express a preference, they would choose to continue in all-colored cottages rather than be placed in cottages with white boys. I have already stated that the colored boys in Cleveland and Madison cottages, where they constitute from one fifth to one-third of the population have requested that they be placed in all-colored cottages. That leaves 3 boys in Monroe, one in Polk and one in Taft cottage where they have been placed in order to give them either gardening or farm experience. I can not speak for those five boys but my impression is that they, too, would prefer to be in all-colored cottages.

"In view of our experience with segregation over a period of four or five years, we are convinced that both colored and white boys are happier under this arrangement than they were when they were mixed. It is also our conviction that a better program can be provided for both groups of boys suitable to their characteristics when they are segregated in this way.

APR 13 1941

"There is no foundation for the opinion that the recent death of a colored boy at the hands of employees has been the result of mistreatment of colored boys, and it is certain that it had no connection with segregation."

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

35 INMATES FACE QUIZ IN SLAYING AT ST. CHARLES

APR 12 1941

Judge William J. Fulton in Kane County Circuit court in Geneva gave permission yesterday to Attorneys Ralph M. Eaton and George D. Carbarry to interview 35 inmates at the St. Charles School for Boys regarding the fatal beating of James Williams, a 16 year old inmate. The attorneys represent Robert Adams, 33, of Lanark, and William Laird, 27, of Elgin, former guards at the school who are under indictment for the murder of Williams. The former guards, both held in the county jail without bail, have obtained separate trials. Adams is scheduled to be tried May 22 with Laird's trial following.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

ACCUSED GUARD TELLS JURY OF FATAL BEATING

APR 12 1941

Robert M. Adams, a guard at the St. Charles School for Boys, testified in his own defense yesterday in Kane county Circuit court at Geneva where he is on trial for murder in the fatal beating of James Williams, 16 years old, colored, an inmate of the school. The beating occurred Feb. 13 in a punishment cottage on the grounds.

Adams said he was standing amid 30 inmates and Williams attacked him first. He said he tried to beat off Williams with a stick and called William Laird, another guard, to his aid. Laird also is charged with murder, but has been granted a separate trial.

MAY 22 1941

On cross-examination, Adams admitted he had a drink before the fight, but asserted he was not then on duty and was not drunk. The trial is before Judge William J. Fulton and a jury.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

ACQUIT GUARD IN FATAL BEATING AT ST. CHARLES

Robert M. Adams, former guard at the St. Charles School for Boys, was acquitted of a murder charge last night by a jury in the Circuit court of Judge William J. Fulton in Geneva. The jury was out an hour and a half and took seven ballots.

Adams was accused of the fatal beating last Feb. 13 of James Williams, 16 years old, colored inmate of the school. Another former guard, William Laird, 27, also faces a murder charge in the same case, but has been granted a separate trial, starting June 9.

MAY 24 1941

The state tried to prove that Adams, who is 33 and lives in Lanark, Carroll county, beat Williams beyond the needs of discipline. Defense Attorney Ralph M. Eaton, former Carroll county state's attorney, argued that Adams fought back in self-defense after Williams struck him.

Jackson Miss Daily Clarion Ledger 6-6-41

Negro Group Protests Paroling Of Youths

Seek Training School For Young Offenders

The paroling of young Negro offenders to farmers would contribute to an increase in crime among juvenile Negroes, according to a statement released yesterday by the Mississippi Negro Delinquent Home association, which is seeking the establishment of a state-supported training school for delinquent Negro youths. The statement read as follows:

"For a number of years much time and energy has been spent to influence the State to build and operate a training school for Negro juvenile delinquents. The State has provided an institution of the kind for the white juvenile offenders, but young Negroes, caught in the snares of the law must be placed in prison along with adult and hardened criminals, which does nothing less than expose their young minds to broader roads of cirme.

"The Mississippi Federation of Colored Women's clubs has worked several years with the single objective of establishing a home for the Negro delinquent youth of the State. They have worked, hoped and prayed that the State would come to their rescue. The Committee of One Hundred has been no less militant in cooperation with the Colored State Federated clubs in promoting the same cause. But in recent years, the Mississippi Negro Delinquent Home association has organized to work in cooperation with all other organizations interested in securing a home for Negro juvenile delinquents.

"There are two outstanding facts worth considering relative to crime and criminals regardless of race. First, the criminal running at large is a menace to the community and society. Second, the criminal in prison, either in jail or on the farm, is more of a liability than an asset to the State.

"The increase of Negro juvenile offenders throughout the State, with no place or institution to put them, has created a problem not only for the law enforcement officers, but for the Hinds County Circuit court to parole young Negro offenders to farmers constitutes a challenge to all Negro organizations — civic, educational, fraternal and religious—to begin a coordinated effort to prevent any such precedent. The Negro juvenile delinquent problem is State-wide and should not be considered as the concern of any particular organization, group or race, but all organizations, groups and races who love justice and look forward to a better Mississippi."

Jackson, Miss., News
October 20, 1941

Delinquent Negro's Home Considered

The establishment of a home for delinquent negro boys and girls and of a recreational center at Clinton was considered by the executive board of the Mississippi State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs preceding the federation's third annual session at Piney Woods school.

E. B. Miller, chairman, presided.

R. O. Hubert presided as the Thursday morning session initiated the convention proper. Reports were given by the county and district federation clubs and of the natonal federation convention in Oklahoma City in July.

The evening session was opened by the Piney Woods school girls' orchestra rendering two numbers. Guest soloist was Elnora Oliver.

After welcome addresses and music by the high school chorus the state president, R. O. Hubert, addressed the assemblage and was prseented flowers from the Terrell Literary Club of Jackson.

The day's activities were closed with a banquet for 100 delegates and friends. The speaker for the banquet was B. L. Buford, State Y. M. C. A. secretary.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

PRANKSTERS WHIPPED IN PUBLIC BY PARENTS

NOV 3 1941
NOV 3 1941

Punishment Attacked By White Minister

PICAYUNE, Miss.—(ANP)—Last Thursday's edition of the Picayune Item, white daily, carried an editorial condemning the flagrant punishment meted out to 5 Negro boys for a practical joke which they played on the defense project here Sunday. The prank, perpetuated by the boys who ranged from 10 to 17 years of age, upset the 6,000 populace of the town, but controversial opinions are going the rounds as to whether the punishment meted out to the youngsters was just.

The story surrounding the incident began Sunday evening when the boys, Eddie M. McGrew, 15; Johnnie Gaines, 17; Dan Strickland, 12; Willie Lourant, 13, and Percy Gordon 10. were playing near their homes here. A homing pigeon came down near them and they caught it. One of the boys suggested they write a note saying "Hello," attach it to the pigeon and release it. Johnnie, however, suggested they write "We shell bomb the Crosby Retort Plant tonight at 12:43 o'clock, signed "Hanz." That idea was unanimously agreed upon by the boys.

PIGEON GOT AWAY

The note was printed in large letters and fastened to the bird's leg. The boys claimed the pigeon got away from them and they could not catch it Tuesday the pigeon was found by John Patoh Jr., and Henry Gipson. who read the note and turned it over to Deputy Sheriff W. A. Alexander, who got in touch with the owners of the plant.

Near panic engulfed the workers of the naval stores plant, some refusing to go to their work at all. Special guards and highway patrolmen guarded the plant until Thursday when George and Fred McGrew, brothers of Eddie McGrew, one of the boys involved in the prank, told Supt. H. A. Brondon, of the plant, that their brother with four others were responsible for the note.

Rounding up the boys, police officers placed them in the city jail. No charge could be placed against the boys, however, as there was no criminal intent in what they had done, and the boys were under the age of criminal responsibility. Therefore, the parents of the boys were called in and made to agree that the boys would be publicly whipped as punishment for their prank. Late Thursday evening the boys were taken to a public place and one by one turned over to the parents who administered the punishment.

Picayune, Miss. Item
October 23, 1941

WHIPPING NEGRO BOYS——

One of the most controversial things that has taken place here for some time, was the corporal punishment administered to five Negro boys last Thursday night for a practical joke they played, involving a carrier pigeon and a note.

The boys were placed in jail and released when their parents and guardians consented to give them a thrashing for their boyish prank.

Sunday evening, the boys were playing. An homing pigeon came down near them and they caught it. According to officers, one of the boys suggested they write a note saying "Hello," attach it to the pigeon and release it. Another suggested something else, and the oldest suggested they write the following, "We shell bomb the Crosby Retort Plant tonight at 12:45 o'clock, signed Hanz." That idea went over unanimously with the five boys. The note was printed in large let-

ters, fastened to the bird. The boys claimed the pigeon got away from them and they could not catch it. It was Tuesday the pigeon was found by John Patch, Jr., and Henry Gipson, who read the note and turned it over to W. A. Alexander, deputy sheriff. He immediately got in touch with other officers and owners of the plant. Near panic engulfed the workers of the naval stores plant, some refusing to go to their work at all. A large number of special guards and highway patrolmen guarded the plant until Thursday when two brothers of one of the boys involved in the prank, George and Fred McGrew, told H. A. Brondon, superintendent of the naval stores plant, that their brother with four others was responsible for the note. The boys were rounded up and placed in the city jail. Officers got their heads together and found there was no charge that could be made against the boys as there was no criminal intent in what they did, and, too, the boys were under the age of criminal responsibility. The parents and guardians of the boys were contacted and it was agreed that the boys be given a whipping as a lesson. It was agreed that the whipping take place in a public place and that the whipping be done by the parents of the boys. At the designated time, late Thursday evening the boys were released from jail and one at a time turned over to their parents who applied the lash.

Many and sundry versions of the whipping went immediately into circulation. Some say the boys were beaten until they could not stand; others that eyes were closed and great whelps about the heads of the victims. Officers say such was not the case and agreed to accompany us to the parties who did the whipping and to the boys who were whipped. Marshal P. I. Graves when asked about the severity of the whipping told us that he would admit the boys got their "hinies" tore up, but as for having been beaten until they could not stand, there was not a word of truth in it. Another party who witnessed the whipping said most of the boys fell down on the grass at the first lick but were in no way knocked down or bruised.

Here are the two sides to the question:

Five little Negro boys were brought out in public and whipped for a boyish prank that is likely to happen to any boy or boys of any race. It is our opinion the boys were not brutally beaten, but, nevertheless, it was embarrassing and painful while the lash was being applied. The boys violated no law, but their innocent prank was fraught with grave possibilities because of our strained relations with Germany and the German name "Hanz" signed to the note. Whether the lashing will restrain these and other boys from committing such acts is beyond our ability to judge with any degree of accuracy. It is our guess it will teach them not to do the same thing again, but the question is: Will it keep them from doing some other prank just as dangerous?

On the other hand, the chaos, strain and forebodings, the expense and fear created by this note deserves some consideration. Men worked under a strain all night Tuesday and Wednesday nights with special police, guards and patrolmen running hither and yon ready to take the life of any suspicious person, though as harmless a person as the note the boys placed in circulation.

The potential harm of whipping the boys was in no degree commensurate to the potential harm that could have come from the writing of the note, but whether the whipping was a just and effective antidote for such pranks we repeat, we do not know.

32-1941 NEW YORK

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Fight Jim Crow Homes For Delinquent Negro Girls

FEB 2 2 1941

"We will not tolerate a segregated home for delinquent Negro girls," Tax Commissioner Hubert T. Delany said Sunday afternoon to more than 600 persons gathered at Mother A. M. E. Zion Church where problems facing wayward minors were discussed by outstanding social and civic leaders.

This would be the same, he said, as endorsing segregated schools in such a metropolitan center as New York City.

The meeting, sponsored by Mrs. Bertha Harris, pastor of the Rescue Mission Church and well-known Harlem business woman, was held for the purpose of discussing ways and means of forcing existing institutions to accept wayward Negro girls. At present, the only places available to them for reclamation are city prisons.

Stating that "we can't do this job alone," and that other social and civic agencies must become interested in this worthy movement, Mr. Delany lauded Mrs. Harris for her foresightedness in calling the meeting together.

Pointing out that "the population of Harlem has doubled itself between 1930 and 1940," Mr. Delany said that delinquency rampant in the community was caused by overcrowded conditions in homes and schools.

Other speakers; introduced by the master of ceremonies, J. Dalmus Steele, and expressing themselves as being wholeheartedly behind this movement, were Newbold Morris, President of the City Council; Judge Jane Bolin of the Children's Court; Bertha Clark and Dorothy Clark of Wayward Minors Court; Mrs. Harriet Shad Butcher of the Russell Sage Foundation; Miss Dunlap of the Women's City Club; Mrs. Herbert Cenner of the Jewish Shelter.

Mrs. Lillian Sharpe Hunter, circulation manager and director of Public Relations of The Amsterdam Star-News, endorsing the program said:

"The Amsterdam Star-News appreciates the work that Mrs. Harris is doing in trying to relieve the intolerable conditions facing our youth and is offering to her the free use of the top floor of our new building for any meetings she may call in the future."

FEB 2 2 1941

Musical selections were rendered by the choir of Mother A.M.E. Zion Church, Miss Hardy, Brown's Choir and Miss Ethel Smith. Miss Fraline Alfred gave a reading, "Negro Mother."

32-1941

NORTH CAROLINA

Greensboro N. C. News
February 14, 1941

AN OFFER REPEATED.

The North Carolina Federation of Colored Women's clubs repeats its offer to the state of property for the development of a school for delinquent negro girls. At the direction of the federation its president, Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, advises the Governor and other state officials whose responsibilities relate particularly to matters of this nature that the property has a valuation of $15,000, and consists of 140 acres of land and a building that cost $7,500 "with adequate water facilities for the sum of $1,000, this sum representing the amount necessary to liquidate a mortgage, the only indebtedness on the property." The place has been used by the federation as an industrial home for delinquent negro girls.

Has this proposal ever been looked into thoroughly, and considered on its merits? We suggest that, in any event, it will be well for it to be restudied, to ascertain whether in the light of newer developments it is expedient for the state to take over the property. Our own impression is that it is generally agreed there is much need for such an institution to be supplied by the state, and much opinion to the effect that it would perform a service the lack of which is a reproach to North Carolina.

Charlotte, N. C., News
February 1, 1941

Seek Institution For Negro Girls

RALEIGH.—(AP)—Members of the North Carolina Interracial Commission, who conferred with Governor Broughton here yesterday, were assured by the Chief Executive that he would obtain for them a hearing before the joint Appropriations Committee on the request for an allotment to establish an institution for delinquent Negro girls.

The commission members told the Governor there was a need for such an institution, where Negro girls could be trained for industrial and domestic work. Bishop Edwin A. Penick, Episcopal clergyman, and Mrs. W. T. Bost, head of the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare, headed the delegation.

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
February 1, 1941

COMMISSION REQUESTS NEGRO GIRLS' SCHOOL

Governor Broughton said yesterday the joint Appropriations committee next week would hear an Interracial Commission headed by Bishop Edwin A. Penick in an appeal for delinquent Negro girls.

About 20 members of the Commission conferred with the Governor and asserted there is "urgent need" of such an institution. where Negro girls may equip themselves for industrial and domestic work while serving terms imposed by courts.

"There is a definite need for such a school," the Governor said, pointing out that the State maintains such schools for delinquent white boys and white women and also for delinquent Negro boys. He said several towns had approached him on the subject, complaining especially of having to confine Negro girls in the common jails.

Mrs. T. W. Bost, welfare commissioner, has requested frequently that such an institution be established.

Shelby, N. C., Star
February 3, 1941

Negro Girls' Home Requested By Group

RALEIGH, Feb. 3.—(AP)—Members of the North Carolina interracial commission, who conferred with Governor Broughton here last week, were assured by the chief executive that he would obtain for them a hearing before the joint appropriations committee on a request for an allotment to establish an institution for delinquent negro girls.

The commission members told the governor there was a need for such an institution, where negro girls could be trained for industrial and domestic work. Bishop Edwin A. Penick, Episcopal clergyman, and Mrs. W. T. Bost, head of the state board of charities and public welfare, headed the delegation.

Winston-Salem, N. C., Sentinel
March 19, 1941

Commission to Study Need For Negro Girls' Training School

Hopes for the creation of a state training school for Negro girls were kept alive, it was reported today, under a bill approved by the General Assembly authorizing the governor to appoint a commission to study the possibilities of such a school and report back at the next session of the assembly.

The bill was introduced by Representative Rex Gass of Forsyth, after a bill to set up a Negro girls' training school died in committee. Senator Gordon Gray had prepared a bill similar to the one introduced by Gass, but its introduction was not necessary after Gass' measure was submitted and approved.

The commission authorized under the bill will make a recommendation to the budget commission prior to the next legislature.

Forsyth county officials took a prominent part in the move to set up such a training school. At present there is none in the entire state.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
September 6, 1941

A BRIGHT SPOT ON A DARK MAP.

The picture of delinquency among Negro youths of Charlotte is altogether dark and dismal. Such a situation here may be no worse than similar situations in other communities where a third of the total population is of this race.

But it is a condition unrelieved by such comparisons. The problem in Charlotte is Charlotte's problem alone and exclusively.

And it is a problem of such acuteness and magnitude as to challenge the best thought and determination of all of our civic factors.

It is tragic if local differences of opinion or frictions developed over personalities or cleavages wrought between political and social agencies should intervene to obscure the fact itself that this is an issue that only grows in extensiveness while arguments are indulged as to this and that.

Let it be said by way of adding a brighter tone to the black outlines of this situation that the investment of the interest and eager leaderships of such Negro leaders as Dr. NATHANIEL TROSS in this problem gives a touch of hopefulness and of promise.

The people of Charlotte are not properly appreciating the value of the citizenship of this able civic and Christian leader and racial statesman.

Dr. TROSS is superbly equipped for distinguished constructive service in this community. For one thing, he is a great intellectual. He has a mind that is keen and profound. He can hold his own in any company of the ready witted and deep thinkers. His counsels are savored by the salt of clear reason and considered judgments.

More than that, his heart is in the work of social and moral improvement of his people and of all people. He is deeply convinced of the power of the spiritualities and their place in the individual and community life.

Dr. TROSS has now turned his able attentions to this problem of crime among the juveniles of his race. Other capable and intensely interested Negro leaders are behind him in his good purposes.

It does seem, therefore, that Dr. TROSS would make the proper pivot of leadership around whom all other forces and factors operating in this field could profitably turn to the consummate benefit not only of the wayward among his own race, but to the uplift of the life of the community as a whole.

That such men as Dr. TROSS are willing to make this issue of juvenile delinquency the major matter at hand if they can get the co-operation which the acuteness of this issue requires offers some prospect for real achievemeint in this needy and important social and civic field.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
September 5, 1941

EASILY REMEDIAL.

It's hard enough to get on top of a crime situation when all the forces and factors of law enforcement are working in close and co-operative concord.

It's virtually impossible unless they are.

That there is a lack of co-ordination somewhere within these multiple machineries of the enforcement officers, the courts and the institutions in which criminals are confined has become evident here within the last few days.

Such a deficiency is dramatized in the case of the several confirmed juvenile Negro offenders who have been carrying on repeated theiveries.

It develops that this small gang of youngsters are arrested, re-arrested, and sentenced and re-sentenced only to turn up a few days later as the repeating perpetrators of the same offenses for which they were previously taken in hand.

The records of the cases show that the officers are diligent and successful in running them down, the court is faithful and prompt in sending them to the Negro Training School, but that these defendants themselves are equally alert in breaking loose from the confinements at this institution and returning to the scene of their depredations.

The leak appears to occur mainly, if not altogether, first, in lack of facilities at the Morrison Training School to keep such unruly youth in custody during the period of their punishment and, second, in the failure of officials there to notify the local authorities, either the police department, the welfare department or the juvenile court officials, that they have escaped.

If such is a correct analysis of the problem of handling such cases of juvenile offenders, it is manifest that the local public has no quarrel with the enforcement officers nor a grievance against the court handling these defendants, but that the lack of co-ordination and co-operation falls upon the State authorities and institutions in that these are lax in keeping track of these criminals when once they are committed to their keeping.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
November 5, 1941

Negro Delinquency as Seen From Africa.

To The Observer:

My attention has been directed to "A Charlotte Problem," and the inquiry in The Observer "What can be done for these young Negro boys?"

This article will surely direct attention to the modern efforts at social reform and the betterment of slum conditions by the authorities.

More might, however, be done by private individuals to break up an undesirable gang by dealing with one member of it and his home conditions.

At Cambridge University Mission in Bermondsey, London, for the last 35 years efforts have been made to reach boys individually and win them to Christ.

This has often resulted in the member of a gang of loafers being won so that their rank is divided and, in this way, sometimes the whole gang has been reached.

As a member of the Juvenile Affairs Board in Natal, for 18 years I have watched with interest the many efforts which social reformers are making to make the world more pleasant.

Such endeavours cannot dispense with the old-fashioned way of dealing with the outcasts who need to learn a solution for their personal problems whatever the surroundings may be.

Police authorities must necessarily deal with the subject wholesale but individual work is of paramount importance here and now as well as through eternity.

F. GORDON CAWSTON.
National President in South Africa, International Magna Carta Day Association Incorporated.
Durban, South Africa.

Winston-Salem N. C. Journal
February 21, 1941

Bill for Negro Girls' Haven 'Most Important', Cline Says

Welfare Official Points to Lack Of Facility

A. W. Cline, Forsyth public welfare superintendent, yesterday termed the bill to establish an industrial school for Negro girls, in his opinion, "the most important piece of legislation proposed in the present General Assembly."

There is now no such school in North Carolina, Cline pointed out. He said this lack is the one outstanding gap in the state's welfare and delinquency program.

Lack of such an institution offers a continuing and serious problem in community social work, he asserted. It is hampering to the juvenile court.

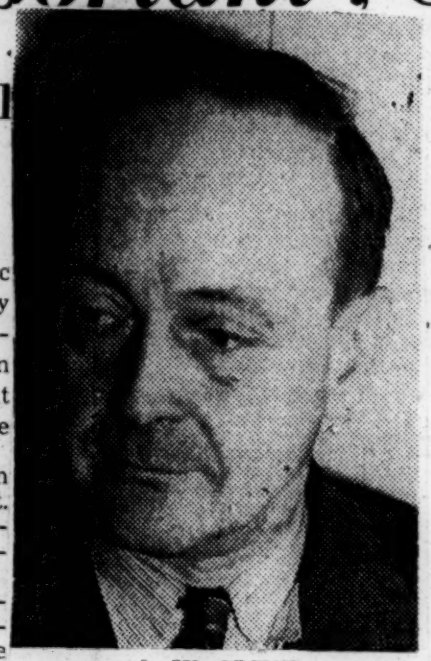
"Hardly a week passes that we are not forced to turn loose on the community one or more Negro girls who should be confined for a period of time in a correctional institutional," he said. "Many of these girls are suffering with venereal diseases and cannot be treated properly outside of an institution. The jail is no place to confine a girl of juvenile court age to force compulsory treatment for venereal diseases. If we wanted to use jails for this purpose, it would take only a few weeks to fill them to overflowing."

Institutionalizing of delinquents is necessary in only a relatively small percentage of the cases, Cline said. Probation is the best way of handling the majority of the cases, but there are always a few problem children who should be placed in an institution as a final plan of treatment for their delinquency.

Training in an industrial school for Negro girls would be chiefly along lines of domestic work.

Cline cited an example he said illustrated the need for an industrial school for Negro girls:

A Negro girl was placed on probation several months ago because hers was a border-line case; juvenile court authorities expected little development under probationary care because of the home surroundings.



A. W. CLINE

The girl was returned within a few weeks for an offense and was returned to probation.

Only a few weeks later, the girl was in serious trouble—murder. She had stabbed to death another young Negro girl in an argument over a man at a beer parlor. She was sent to prison for a long term.

This, Cline said, might have been avoided had there been an industrial school to which to send her at her first delinquencies.

Winston-Salem N. C. Journal
February 24, 1941

Corrects Error

To the Editor of The Journal:

I wish to thank you for your splendid editorial in regard to a home for delinquent Negro girls and at the same time to correct an error, if possible, through your columns.

The property offered to the state was the property at Efland, North Carolina, twenty-eight miles from our work here at Sedalia. This property was bought by the Federation of Women's Clubs where for nearly twenty years, we attempted to conduct a home for delinquent Negro girls.

During the time of the depression, it was extremely difficult to raise sufficient funds to maintain the home adequately, and we finally had to abandon the effort last year. It is earnestly hoped that the state will do something whether they take that property or not.

C. HAWKINS BROWN.
Sedalia, N. C.
February 22. 1941.

Winston-Salem N. C. Journal
February 28, 1941

Broughton Has Data On Negro Girls' Haven

Governor J. M. Broughton has interested himself in the bill now before the General Assembly to set up a training school for delinquent Negro girls, the chief executive indicated in a letter received yesterday by A. W. Cline, Forsyth county superintendent of public welfare.

Cline, who has been squarely back of the project ever since it was first mentioned in connection with this session of the legislature (as well as a number of times at former sessions of the assembly) sent the Governor data on the proposed school together with specific case information, as published in an article in The Journal recently.

Governor Broughton acknowledged receipts of the data and declared the project "worthy of serious consideration." He said further he had transmitted the data to the proper committee of the General Assembly "with my own expression of interest."

Winston-Salem N. C. Sentinel
February 16, 1941

Gass Outlines Plan for Negro Girls' Haven

The bill now before the legislature to establish an institution for the care of delinquent Negro girls in North Carolina, if enacted into law, can and doubtless will effect the same excellent results as distinguish the Morrison Training School for Negro boys, at Hoffman, M. R. Gass, member of the Forsyth delegation in the General Assembly, and sponsor of the bill, said last night.

Gass, chairman of the public welfare committee of the lower house, introduced the bill, which has the hearty support of the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare.

Co-introducers of the bill were Representatives F. L. Gobble of Forsyth, D. B. Everett of Halifax county, and A. B. Stoney of Burke county, all likewise members of the public welfare committee of the lower house.

The bill now under consideration is similar to one introduced in 1939 and is along the line of proposed measures which have been considered in other assemblies for sometime past. It is now in the hands of the committee and will get action early this week.

In event the bill becomes law, the directors of the institution will secure "by gift or purchase suitable real estate within the state at such place as the board may deem best, and with the money or other property which the corporation may have received for that purpose, either by donations from individuals or by appropriations from the state, the board shall proceed to erect on such real estate buildings suitable for carrying out the purposes for which the corporation is created."

The institution will admit and train girls under 16 years of age sent from juvenile court or other court of competent jurisdiction. The girls committed shall not be kept beyond the age of 21 years.

An appropriation of $70,000 is set up in the bill with which to start the school, $50,000 to be used for the purchase of land and for permanent improvements, and $20,000 to be used for maintenance for the biennium ending in 1943.

Winston-Salem N. C. Journal
February 18, 1941

Lauds Plan for Haven For Negro Girls

To the Editor of The Journal:

It was with a grateful heart that I read the article in The Journal concerning the plan for the Negro girls' haven. I am one Negro citizen who is deeply grateful to A. W. Cline and Judge Ransom Averitt of the local juvenile court for endorsing the bill introduced recently, providing for establishment of a state institution for delinquent Negro girls.

My own experience has left me with the feeling that a school for delinquent Negro girls would be one of the best and most needed projects that our state can build for the betterment and advancement of our race. Because of this experience, I am deeply grateful for this wonderful plan. I am sure that after reading my article, you will certainly agree with me, and will also be grateful to Mr. Cline and Mr. Averitt.

Sometime ago I took into my home a young girl who so badly needed a home and nome training. All the time I thought she needed only these two things which I was determined she should have. Later I found that this particular girl had come this far without any discipline whatsoever. I then found out I could not handle the case as it really should be handled. The case needed firm and stronger foundation. The girl needed discipline in the beginning.

I was determined to see the case carried out as it should be, so I put it in the hands of a social worker and together we worked on the case. We sent her back to her home. She was immediately placed in a reform school where I am sure she will soon become a respected citizen.

There are still many girls who are without proper homes and proper training. Eventually this leads to crime and many other things which tend to lower the principle of young girls. Some girls are allowed too much freedom and some not enough. This is why so many of them meet ruin. Their free time is not spent wisely.

Therefore, I am sure you will agree with me that this plan for the establishment of an institution for delinquent Negro girls is the answer to the question of what may be done for the betterment and advancement of our race.

—MRS. VIOLA BROOKS.
Winston-Salem, N. C.
February 17, 1941.

Winston Salem N C Sentinel
February 16, 1941

Need and Opportunity

While the need of a state home for delinquent Negro girls is being debated in legislative circles an opportunity has arisen in this relation.

Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, president of federation of Negro women's clubs in North Carolina, has offered to the state a site near Greensboro comprising 140 acres and a building which cost $7,500. The only expense incurred by the state, if it should accept the property, would be the expenditure of $1,000 in retirement of a mortgage in that amount, this being the only encumbrance against the property.

There is a crying need for a state home for delinquent Negro girls. The Negro population of the commonwealth is about one-third of the total population. The economic status of the Negro race is lower than that of the white. The educational rank of the colored people, despite phenomenal advance in recent decades, is still lower.

All this adds up to a large amount of delinquency among Negro youth. Environmental factors produced by the economic and educational influences have encouraged in too many instances a trend toward delinquency. Social welfare agencies, however, have been tremendously handicapped by the lack of a well-conducted institution where Negro girl delinquents could be isolated from wrong environmental contacts and rehabilitated for useful lives in society.

The state has in Morrison Training School a very efficient institution for the rehabilitation and reform of male Negro youth. But aside from the woefully inadequate little school at Efland, which the legislature supported for a while but finally abandoned, there has been no institution for the reform of colored female delinquents.

The lack of a home for these young delinquents shames the state and an early remedy is imperative. Whether the offer made by Dr. Brown is deemed sufficient to the need in the premises, or not, it serves to highlight and emphasize a problem which grows increasingly grave with every passing year, and one which the state cannot afford to evade.

Winston-Salem, N. C., Sentinel
June 5, 1941

What to Do

The Charlotte press reports that a six-foot Negro boy awaiting trial on the charge of making a criminal assault upon a white woman is held in the "juvenile detention quarters" with seven Negro boys running around in the cage with him.

The Charlotte News quotes the keeper of the detention home as saying he doesn't like to keep suspected rapists with little boys who are still young enough to enjoy a game of marbles.

But he doesn't know what to do about it.

Possibly the hitch comes in the age question. If the large Negro boy is oversize for his age—if he is under 16, he belongs technically in the category of juveniles, and cannot legally be incarcerated in county or city jail. If he is over 16 he has no business in juvenile detention quarters.

But common sense ought to point a way out in individual cases of this sort. Large boys charged with felonious offenses certainly ought not to be confined in the same room with little boys of marble-playing age.

A detention home which is not prepared to keep the suspected felon separated from merely misguided, mischievous children, conceivably may be worse than no detention home at all.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
October 22, 1941

REDD OUTLINES DUTIES, NEEDS OF DEPARTMENT

Additional Case Workers Requested By Judge.

ASKS MORE OFFICE SPACE

Lack Of Playground at Juvenile Detention Quarters Gets Board's Attention.

Members of the advisory committee of the domestic relations court launched a three-pronged investigation yesterday into Charlotte's Negro truancy problem, the lack of play space at juvenile detention quarters, and the need of additional case workers to conduct the court's business.

Also scheduled for study by the group was a recommendation of Judge Redd that more office room be provided for the court personnel.

The afternoon meeting—first session at which all five members were present—began in the Mayor's city hall office and ended in the juvenile courtroom, where Judge Redd outlined the duties and needs of his department.

As evidence of the vast amount of work entailed, he pointed out that the court collects annually between $60,000 and $70,000 a year from non-supporting husbands, most of which is comprised of small weekly payments, and all of which is transferred to the wives and children of the errant men.

NONE FOR SALARIES.

"Not one penny of the amount goes for salaries," he declared. "Unless it was collected—and sometimes we have to chase them all over the country to get it—the city and county would have to buy books, and milk, and clothing for these needy families."

He stressed the need for an intake man—some responsible person who could supervise investigation of complaints before warrants are issued, and attend to other details of the court duties. This, as well as other of Judge Redd's suggestions, were taken under advisement by the committee.

An exhaustive study of the problem of Negro truancy here was ordered after the matter had been brought to the attention of the group, and the need for Negro truant officers pointed out. A report on the cause, effect, and possible cure for this condition—said by Negro leaders to be a major contributor to juvenile delinquency locally—will be made at the next meeting of the advisory board on November 18.

RECREATION NEEDS.

Also earmarked for consideration was some means of providing recreation space for juveniles held in the South Mint street detention quarters. According to reports received by the committee, there is at present no place available for play at the jail, the only logical space being occupied by a wood yard.

Provision for additional office room for the domestic court's staff, described as a matter for action by county commissioners, was discussed, with Judge Redd suggesting that part of the courtroom be transformed into offices.

As preamble to the business at hand, the recently appointed committee members studied various reports and informative booklets in an effort to acquaint themselves with procedure and practices of juvenile courts.

Attending were Dr. P. H. Gwyn of Davidson, chairman; Dr. E. H. Garinger, secretary; Laurie Dickson, Mrs. Francis Clarkson, and Mrs. Robert Moore.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Boys Under Sixteen Serious Problem: They Need Your Help

A TOTAL of 3275 arrests were made of boys under sixteen years of age in Philadelphia during 1940. Of this total 1702 were white and 1573 were colored. The percentage of white is 51.9 and colored 48.1.

JUL 7 1941

While colored boys are only about 10 per cent of the total population, they constitute 48.1 per cent of the arrests appearing in the House of Detention; or about four times as many colored as white in proportion to the population.

There are reasons, social and economic, for this tremendous drain on colored youth. But regardless of the cause something must be done about it.

Everybody understands that poor living conditions among either colored or white are largely responsible for juvenile delinquency. However, when the figures put out concerning the number of arrests show such a large number of colored delinquents the casual observer will say, "Colored children are inherently criminal." The answer of course is that it is not true. But the damage is done.

The record shows another serious cause for concern when the committal figures are studied: 38.5 per cent of white boys are committed and 61.5 of colored boys are sent to prison. Why this vast difference? Is it because white parents and organizations are more interested in their boys than colored ones?

JUL 7 1941

On the assumption that there is "no such thing as a bad boy:" Is there not something vitally wrong when so many colored boys go without assistance when their feet stray from the narrow path? Should not public-spirited citizens help the Court to help these boys?

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
May 20, 1941

Last week at the Southeastern States Conference on Probation and Parole, John Lively, Jr., chief probation officer for Hamilton County, told a few sordid truths about juvenile delinquency in Tennessee. Among other items, Mr. Lively listed the fact that the Juvenile Court of this county is compelled to send to Pikeville boys who are not mentally normal. Pikeville is the site of the State Reformatory for Colored Boys. Mr. Lively stated that youths sent there from Chattanooga and other courts are supposed to be "reformed," to be fitted to go back into the world to live. But because there is not an institution for feeble-minded Negro boys, Pikeville must house delinquents of all sorts.

This condition emphasizes the deplorable situation at Herbert Domain, as the site of the Training School for Negro Delinquents is named. There on an isolated hilltop are gathered the Negro boys of Tennessee who have been found by State courts to be guilty of crimes, major or petty. Too few citizens seem to feel concern over the fact that mentally unfit and mentally normal are herded together there. And not many persons in the State of Tennessee appear to be interested in what happens to those boys after they reach Herbert Domain. The court has "put them away" for a set period of years or months. There they stay until, as the phrase goes, they "pay their debt to society."

Mr. Lively's revelations concerning the mental stability of delinquents deserve separate treatment and discussion. The matter of interest here is that the conditions which he revealed at Pikeville are bad; and so are many other phases of that school which public apathy alone permits to exist. The school at Pikeville is a living example of all that is worst in politics. Politics in its worst sense is the spoils system. And even here it can be understood that when a political leader has the power of appointment, he will choose a friend for a post rather than an enemy. That is the foundation of a spoils system.

But under ordinary circumstances, although a man may obtain a position of public trust due to his friendship with a Governor, a Congressman, or a Mayor, he is supposed to make a fairly creditable record. Only in places like the Negro reformatory at Pikeville can the cousins of political leaders be placed to do whatsoever they wish. In that isolated spot, any kind of administration is apparently permissible. Who knows what goes on? The kinsmen of the inmates are not in a position to make an effective protest against cruelty or injustice.

This reformatory for colored boys should not be located at a place like the Herbert Domain. Too much has been developed in the way of reforming juvenile delinquents for a school like that to exist. It is not the fault of the personnel; the school simply needs to be in a city where modern methods can be applied, and intelligent, educated outsiders can assist in turning a State school into a real place of reformation.

Mr. Lively's revelations are one link in a long chain of testimony concerning the need of a change of scenery for this Negro Reformatory. The only argument that is advanced against moving the school to a city is that boys will run away more easily. With a well-defined, intelligent program, that problem is not important. The very fact it is advanced as a good reason for keeping the school at Pikeville shows how little our political leaders understand the purpose of a school for reformation.

New buildings have not been started yet at Pikeville. Before construction begins, there ought to be open, frank consideration of the advisability of moving the school to a larger city where better administration can more easily be provided. Chattanooga would seem to be the logical site.

Nashville, Tenn. Banner
March 4, 1941

Juvenile Court Dairy Products Costs Excessive, Audit Reports

The Humane and Juvenile Court Commission supplies milk and butter for its two detention homes from its own dairy at an approximate cost of 50.81 cents per gallon for milk and 61.04 cents per pound for butter, "when raw milk can be purchased at around 25 cents per gallon, and butter at approximately 30 cents a pound," City Auditor C. P. Moore reported today in his audit of the Commission's finances for the period from August 1 to December 31, 1940.

The dairy has been losing money steadily for at least the past four years, Moore reported, and since 1937 its accumulated deficit approximates $10,000.

Moore, in a thirty-six-page report, found that, "honest and conscientious efforts are now being made to operate the institution honestly and efficiently . . . we find no cause for criticism. Insofar as we are informed, the purposes for which the institutions were created are being honestly and conscientiously administered."

The report, however, points out the following facts in regard to handling of institutions:

"There is being carried on the horse barn at the colored home, $1,000 windstorm insurance, when, according to our information, the barn burned down more than a year ago."

It refers to an amount owed to the Commission by the Hermitage Feed Mills in the total of $344.21 for wheat, "sold to the Hermitage Mills more than a year ago."

"We understand," Moore said, "that the reason it has not been paid is that the Commission is indebted to the Feed Mills. According to the records, the Commission owes the Feed Mills $267.75."

"The Hermitage Feed Mills accounts should be cleared," Moore pointed out. "The Commission should issue its voucher for the amount due, and in turn should then request the Hermitage Feed Mills to send a check for the amount owing to the Commission."

The report adds: "When this schedule was prepared, we were not at all certain that it covered the Commission's entire indebtedness. There was no way of verifying the accounts, except through the creditors, many of whom were not known. The Commission's liability on accounts payable, as of December 31, 1940, is $2,731.49.

"If accounts payable contracted in 1938 and 1939 were paid during 1940, they would necessarily show as expenditures for that particular year under the system of bookkeeping then in use. This means that expenditures for 1940 are considerably out of line. This is merely another example of pyramiding liabilities."

As suggestions based on his findings, Moore suggests:

"The advisability of diposing of the West Hamilton Road property, including three tracts of land, at a fair price, and the investment of the money in marketable securities . . . The best dairy cows might probably be moved to the Negro Detention Home, where the superintendent could supervise a small dairy sufficient to furnish butter and milk for the two homes.

"Another suggestion is, to use this property as a municipal hog farm, where much of the garbage collected in the city could be turned into meat. Several cities are now operating hog farms successfully, particularly Flint, Mich."

The report states that the dairy farm is depreciating and becoming obsolescent both in equipment and stock. Moore indicated that the farm, unless modernized, will not pass State, County, and City inspection.

Livestock owned by the commission at present includes 87 hogs, 42 milch cows, 30 yearling heifers, one Jersey bull, three veal calves and eight work mules. A note states that of eight mules "four considered plugs." Only six of the cows are listed to be worth more than $45 apiece.

The land and buildings owned by the commission including nearly 500 acres is estimated by Moore to be worth $211,141.27.

The commission during 1940 has increased by more than five times the clothing allowance for the Municipal Children's Home, has provided more heat for the children, and doubled the amount spent for building repairs and supplies.

Much the same schedule has been followed in providing much needed better facilities for the Negro Detention Home. The expenses of operating the central office have been cut more than $2,000 including substantial reductions in auto expense and in pay rolls.

The operating cost of the commission's farms has been increased by about $1,000. The monthly pay roll of the commission totals approximately $2,540.

Knoxville, Tenn., Journal
April 2, 1941

Governor More Concerned For Doomed Criminal Than 300 Young Delinquents

Gov. Prentice Cooper, according to the Associated Press, on yesterday was to visit the death house at the Nashville penitentiary. His purpose was to interview a 17-year-old Negro, Lawrence West, who according to schedule is supposed to be electrocuted on Friday for the murder of an elderly Montgomery County farm couple.

We do not know the purpose of the Governor's visit; whether it is preliminary to st[illegible]ing sentence for the young man, or simply to satisfy himself that the Courts have arrived at a proper decision and a just sentence in the prisoner's case.

The thing which impresses us is the fact that while the Governor is apparently solicitous for this boy, who has definitely gone wrong and probably beyond any hope of rehabilitation, the same Governor has manifested no concern over the fate of almost three hundred Negro youngsters of about the same age who are incarcerated in the Pikeville "reformatory" and who stand an excellent chance of being turned out as finished criminals.

So long as the Governor's attitude is that of the State of Tennessee, so long as the only way we recognize for combatting crime is to PUNISH its authors, but never to PREVENT THEIR DEVELOPMENT, then just so long may the taxpayers be prepared to spend the millions of dollars annually that go to maintain our asylums and our penal institutions.

Nor can there be any real change in our methods until the charitable and penal institutions of the State are removed from politics and all of the evils which spoilsmanship breeds. So long as the prime purpose of our institutions is to provide jobs for faithful political henchmen rather than to perform the social functions with which such institutions are charged, Tennessee will remain a backward state and her institutional system an affront to the conscience of her people.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
May 14, 1941

LIVELY DISCUSSES DELINQUENCY HERE

Asserts Sterilization Is as Important as Probation, Parole in Problem

By Staff Correspondent.

NASHVILLE, May 13. — John J. Lively, Jr., chief probation officer of the Hamilton county juvenile court, said today in panel session at the Southeastern States Probation and Parole conference that sterilization was as important in the problems of delinquency as probation and parole. Mr. Lively also asserted that of the 470 cases of delinquency for juveniles in Hamilton county this year at least 50 per cent. were partly due to mental causes.

The county probation officer distributed photograph of dilapidated shacks in Hamilton county which, he said, were representative of living conditions for 250 or 300 families from which children come into the juvenile court in Chattanooga. They are breeding places, he said, of disease, idiocy and crime. A child must learn how to steal in order to live when he is born into a condition of that sort, he commented.

Lack Negro Institution

Another serious situation which Mr. Lively pointed out was the lack of an institution, "a house or even a shed," to which courts may send Negro children for treatment if they are abnormal mentally. Hamilton county has been forced to send a number to the reformatory at Pikeville, where they are thrown with normal children who are there to be trained for better living. Mr. Lively told of one epileptic Negro boy who lives across the street from Erlanger hospital who has been hit three times by a street car for whom nothing can be done by the county as no provision has been made for children of his race.

"All the real probation work," Mr. Lively continued, "which can be done in Hamilton county must be undertaken either by me or by volunteers who are willing to help out from among teachers in the schools, churchworkers or physicians. No real probation system is in operation."

Fifty on Waiting List

The home for feeble minded white children at Donaldson, he said, was full, and Hamilton county had a list of fifty children waiting to enter.

The conference, attracting more than 200 delegates from seven southeastern states, adjourned after electing officers and picking Montgomery, Ala., as next year's meeting site.

C. C. Menzler, Nashville, Tennessee's director of pardons, paroles and probation, was elected president succeeding Edwin Gill, state commissioner of paroles, Raleigh, N. C. Other officers chosen were Mrs. Edwina Mitchell, Montgomery; J. C. Lanier, Jacksonville, Fla.; G. Allen Maddox, Atlanta, presidents; Talley Riddell, Jackson, Miss., secretary, and W. V. Patterson, Miss., secretary, and W. V. Patterson, Charlotte, N. C., treasurer.